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HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

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JAN 0 4 2002

Serial Number: 09/423,436

Hiroshi KANAYAMA et al.

TC 1700

Group Art Unit: 1775

Examiner: M. LAVILLA

Filed: November 9, 2001

For: SLIDING BEARING FOR INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: December 31, 2001

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 31, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

Please replace the abstract with the attached separate sheet containing the new Abstract of the Disclosure.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 3 and 8.

Please amend the following claims:

1. (Amended) A sliding bearing for supporting an opposing shaft movable in a sliding direction against said sliding bearing, characterized in that: